United Nations S/2012/457

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 June 2012

Original: English

Identical letters dated 19 June 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to express my grave concern about the deteriorating security situation in the Sinai peninsula, following a series of deadly attacks launched from the area.

Early yesterday morning, a group of heavily armed terrorists infiltrated from the Sinai across the border into Southern Israel, placing an explosive device on Israel soil. The terrorists exploded this device as a vehicle carrying a group of Israeli civilian workers was passing through the area. Then, they opened fire on the civilian vehicle with an anti-tank missile, grenades and light weapons, killing Saeed Fashafshe, an Israeli citizen and father of four young children.

In another incident, on 16 June 2012, terrorists fired two Grad rockets from the Sinai into Southern Israel, which exploded in the areas of Ovda and Mizpeh Ramon.

These appalling attacks reflect a disturbing situation in which the Sinai desert is increasingly used by terrorists to launch attacks against Israel.

As turmoil continues to sweep across the Middle East, it is critical that the international community send a clear message to the terrorists in our region. Israel expects the Security Council and all responsible members of the international community to condemn these attacks immediately and unequivocally.

Israel has exercised and will continue to exercise its right to self-defence, as appropriate, and will take all necessary measures to protect its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

12-38374 (E) 220612

Please recycle